

B O R O U G H O F W E S T O N - S U P E R - M A R E

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A N N U A L R E P O R T
O F T H E
M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H
F O R T H E Y E A R
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Including the
REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
AND THE METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

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B O R O U G H O F W E S T O N - S U P E R - M A R E

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(January to May 1962)

Chairman

ALDERMAN LT.-COL. G.C.G. GREY, O.B.E., C.C.

Vice-Chairman

COUNCILLOR H.S. ALLEN

COUNCILLOR F.A. BOYD	COUNCILLOR N.W. HASKINS
COUNCILLOR R. IVENS	COUNCILLOR MRS. E.D. NICHOLLS
COUNCILLOR CAPT. J.L. TREVITT	COUNCILLOR G.F. WADHAM
COUNCILLOR W.E. WOODMAN	COUNCILLOR H.A.E. SMITH

(May to December 1962)

Chairman

ALDERMAN LT.-COL. G.C.G. GREY, O.B.E., C.C.

Vice-Chairman

COUNCILLOR H.S. ALLEN

COUNCILLOR D.G. BREWER	COUNCILLOR R. IVENS
COUNCILLOR MRS. A.L. CARPENTER	COUNCILLOR MRS. E.D. NICHOLLS
COUNCILLOR N.W. HASKINS	COUNCILLOR MRS. D. PAYNE
COUNCILLOR V.J. HUTTON	COUNCILLOR W.E. WOODMAN

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Medical Officer of Health	...	...	D. McGowan
Chief Public Health Inspector	...	...	G.P. Lawrence
Public Health Inspectors	...	...	S. Joules (Resigned 3.6.62.)
			E. Knowles
			J. Richards
			N. Lees (Commenced 1.11.62.)
Abattoir Superintendent and Public Health Inspector	...	...	W.W. White
Clerical Staff	...	...	5

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
THE TOWN HALL,
WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of
The Borough of Weston-super-Mare.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report on the health of the Borough and the work of the Public Health Department in 1962.

There were no outstanding episodes directly affecting the health of the town during the year, but like every other area, we were indirectly affected by the smallpox epidemics in other parts of the Country. These epidemics produced a demand for vaccination against smallpox by the general public, and this in itself, produced a considerable amount of illness in adults who were being vaccinated for the first time. Despite advice that mass vaccination was quite unnecessary in this area, the public continued to demand it.

Regarding the environmental services, work on the main drainage scheme is now nearing completion, and in housing, although efforts in the past year or two have been concentrated on the new industrial estate and in flats for the elderly, there is still a great need for the building of houses for general purposes, that is, for the ordinary family living in unsatisfactory conditions in the town.

Mr. Lawrence, in his report, gives an account of the work which the Public Health Inspectors carried out during the year.

Finally, I would like to thank the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee, and of other Committees with which the Health Department is associated and the Officers and staff of other Departments for their assistance and co-operation.

Yours faithfully,

D. McGowan,

Medical Officer of Health.

S U M M A R Y O F S T A T I S T I C S

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (including foreshore) ... 7,006 acres
 Population - Registrar-General's estimate for
 mid-1962 ... 42,750

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1962.

<u>Live Births</u>	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate ...	308	282	590
Illegitimate ...	23	22	45
	<u>331</u>	<u>304</u>	<u>635</u>

Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 population) = 14.9

Corrected Birth Rate (Comparability Factor 1.13) = 16.8

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births = 7.1%

<u>Stillbirths</u>	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate ...	5	3	8
Illegitimate ...	1	-	1
	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>9</u>

Stillbirth Rate (per 1,000 live and stillbirths) = 14.0

Total live and stillbirths ... 644

<u>Infant Deaths</u> (Deaths under 1 year)	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate ...	9	3	12
Illegitimate ...	1	1	2
	<u>10</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>14</u>

Infant Mortality Rates

Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total live births = 22.1

Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births = 19.9

Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births = 44.4

Neonatal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 4 weeks
 per 1,000 total live births) = 14.2

Early Neonatal Mortality Rate (Deaths under
 1 week per 1,000 live births) = 14.2

Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and Deaths
 under 1 week per 1,000 live and stillbirths) = 27.9

Maternal Deaths = 1

Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live and stillbirths) = 1.58.

<u>Deaths</u>	Male	Female	Total
	337	337	674

Crude Death Rate (per 1,000 population) = 15.8

Corrected Death Rate (Comparability Factor 0.71) = 11.2

V I T A L S T A T I S T I C S

BIRTHS

The Registrar-General gives the corrected number of live births in the town as 635 (331 boys and 304 girls), this being 80 more than in 1961. Of these births, 45 were illegitimate (23 boys and 22 girls). This is 7.1 per cent of the total live births, as compared with 5.8 per cent in 1961.

The uncorrected birth rate for 1962 was 14.9, and when the comparability factor (1.13) is applied, the corrected birth rate was 16.8 per 1,000 of the total population, compared with 14.8 in 1961. The birth rate for England and Wales in 1962 was 18.0.

BIRTH RATES

Year	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
England and Wales	15.5	15.2	15.0	15.7	16.1	16.4	16.5	17.1	17.4	18.0
Weston-super-Mare	13.4	13.0	14.5	13.3	14.0	15.5	16.7	16.7	14.8	16.8
Percentage of Illegitimate Births to Total Births in Weston-super-Mare	6.0	5.2	5.4	2.3	5.3	2.0	5.3	5.7	5.8	7.1

STILLBIRTHS

The registered number of stillbirths in 1962 was 9 (6 males and 3 females), of which one was illegitimate, thus giving a stillbirth rate of 14.0 per 1,000 total births, as compared with 22.9 in 1961.

INFANT MORTALITY

Fourteen deaths occurred in children under the age of one year in 1962, compared with twelve in 1961. These fourteen deaths give an Infant Mortality Rate of 22.1 per 1,000 live births, the Rate for England and Wales as a whole being 20.7. Nine of the fourteen deaths occurred during the first week after birth. The Perinatal Mortality (Deaths of Infants during the first week after birth plus stillbirths) was 27.9 per 1,000 live and stillbirths.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

There was one death due to maternal causes in 1962. This death was the subject of a Coroner's Inquest, where the findings were that death was due to "-- attempted instrumental abortion, there not being sufficient evidence to show whether the abortion was self-inflicted or otherwise."

DEATHS

After correction for transferable deaths the total assigned to the Borough by the Registrar-General was 674 (337 males and 337 females). This is 13 less than in 1961 and gives a crude death rate of 15.8 per 1,000 of population. When adjusted for age and sex distribution to make it comparable with other districts, the local death rate was 11.2 compared with 11.9 for England and Wales as a whole.

DEATH RATES

Year	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
England and Wales	11.4	11.3	11.7	11.7	11.5	11.7	11.6	11.5	12.0	11.9
Corrected D.R. Weston-super-Mare	9.8	10.0	10.6	11.4	10.7	12.0	11.6	11.2	11.7	11.2

SEX AND AGE DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS, 1962.

Ages at Death in years	Males	Females	Total	Difference from 1961 figures
Under 1	10	4	14	+2
1 -	1	-	1	-2
5 -	-	-	-	-3
15 -	1	1	2	-1
25 -	13	6	19	+6
45 - 64	55	37	92	-10
Total under 65 years	80	48	128	-8
65 -	60	30	90	+6
70 -	62	52	114	+13
75 -	46	67	113	-8
80 -	53	63	116	-15
85 -	30	49	79	+3
90 -	5	19	24	-8
95 -	1	7	8	+3
100 -	-	2	2	+1
Total over 70 years	257	289	546	-5
TOTALS	337	337	674	-13

CAUSES OF DEATH 1962

Causes of Death	Males	Females	Totals
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	4	1	5
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic diseases	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	13	10	23
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	18	1	19
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	11	11
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	7	7
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	34	28	62
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	3	2	5
16. Diabetes	5	2	7
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	46	58	104
18. Coronary disease, angina	77	59	136
19. Hypertension with heart disease	8	3	11
20. Other heart disease	33	57	90
21. Other circulatory disease	13	17	30
22. Influenza	4	3	7
23. Pneumonia	11	21	32
24. Bronchitis	18	7	25
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	4	1	5
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	3	5
27. Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea	2	-	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	5	-	5
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	5	-	5
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	1	1
31. Congenital malformations	1	1	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	18	27	45
33. Motor vehicle accidents	5	-	5
34. All other accidents	7	13	20
35. Suicide	1	4	5
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
All causes - Total	337	337	674
Deaths of Infants under 1 year			
Legitimate	9	3	12
Illegitimate	1	1	2
Total	10	4	14

INFANT DEATHS 1962

	Under 1 day	1 - 2 Days	2 - 7 Days	Total under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1 - 3 months	3 - 6 months	6 - 9 months	9 - 12 months	Total under 1 year
Prematurity	5	1	1	7	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	7
Congenital Defects	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
Cerebral Palsy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Intracranial haemorrhage	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Intussusception	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Gastro-enteritis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Accidental Suffocation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
TOTAL	5	1	3	9	-	-	9	4	-	1	-	14

INFANT MORTALITY RATES 1949 - 1962

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
England and Wales I.M.R.	32	29.8	29.6	27.6	26.8	25.4	24.9	23.8	23.0	22.5	22.0	21.9	21.6	20.7
No. of deaths	13	17	10	14	10	10	6	12	5	12	8	7	12	14
Weston- super- Mare I.M.R.	23.1	32.5	19.2	30.7	18.8	21.7	11.6	25.3	9.4	21.4	13.2	11.5	21.6	22.1

INQUESTS ON RESIDENTS

<u>Causes of Deaths</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Totals</u>
<u>Natural Causes</u>	1	-	1
<u>Accidents, directly or indirectly:-</u>			
Falls in home 	4	7	11
Fall outside home 	-	1	1
Fall from a height 	1	-	1
Road Accidents 	4	-	4
Coal Gas Poisoning 	-	3	3
Drowning 	1	-	1
Burns 	1	-	1
Accidental suffocation - infant	-	1	1
<u>Suicide:-</u>			
Hanging 	1	1	2
Coal Gas Poisoning 	-	3	3
<u>Other:-</u>			
Attempted instrumental abortion - not known whether self- inflicted or not 	-	1	1
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TOTAL	13	17	30
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POPULATION

REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S ESTIMATE OF POPULATION IN WESTON-SUPER-MARE 1940 - 1962

(1931	Census	31,706)	(1951	Census	40,396)
1940	..	41,810	1951	..	39,660
1941	..	44,500	1952	..	39,540
1942	..	41,250	1953	..	39,650
1943	..	38,100	1954	..	39,990
1944	..	37,930	1955	..	40,330
1945	..	37,470	1956	..	40,300
1946	..	38,890	1957	..	40,600
1947	..	39,590	1958	..	40,800
1948	..	39,710	1959	..	41,150
1949	..	39,830	1960	..	41,110
1950	..	40,210	1961	..	42,450
			1962	..	42,750

GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES

I. HOSPITALS

Early in 1962, the Minister of Health issued his long-awaited Plan giving his priorities for new hospital building during the next ten years. One of the more important features of this Hospital Plan was the concept of the district general hospital which provides treatment and diagnostic facilities both for in-patients and out-patients and includes a maternity unit, a short-stay psychiatric unit, a geriatric unit and facilities for the isolation of infectious diseases. The Minister had in mind the provision of one of these district general hospitals in Weston-super-Mare, but he did not foresee the scheme for this starting until after 1970 - 71.

However, early in 1963, he issued his first review of the Ten-Year Plan and we were very glad to see that he had decided to bring forward the building of the new district general hospital for the Weston-super-Mare area into the first Ten-Year Period. A Project Team for the planning and development of the new hospital has been set up and was at work very quickly after the Minister had made his decision.

II. LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES

The following services in the Borough are administered by the Somerset County Council.

INFANT WELFARE CLINICS

Bournville Public Hall	...	Monday	(weekly) 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
3 Neva Road (Congregational Church Hall from 20.11.62.)	...	Tuesday	(weekly) 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Baytree Road	...	Wednesday	(weekly) 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Moorland Road	...	Thursday	(1st & 3rd in month) 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Milton Hill (Closed December 1962)	Thursday	(2nd & 4th in month)	2.30 - 4.30 p.m.

INFANT WELFARE CLINIC ATTENDANCES, 1962

	Bournville	Neva Road	Baytree Road	Moorland Road	Milton Hill	Total
Total attendance of children in 1962	2,278	3,619	2,255	616	218	8,986
No. of individual children who attended in 1962	365	536	387	105	47	1,440

HEALTH VISITING SERVICE

There are seven Health Visitors in the town, and the following is a summary of the Home Visiting work in 1962.

Visits to Ante-Natal cases	...	...	...	590
Visits to Post-Natal cases	...	...	...	339
Visits to infants under 1 year	...	...	...	3,437
Visits to children 1 to 5 years	...	...	...	5,076
Visits to school children	...	...	...	820
Visits to old people	...	...	...	322
T.B. visits	...	...	...	144
Other visits	...	...	...	1,034

11,762

DISTRICT NURSING SERVICE

The District Nurses provide a scheme for Home Nursing and deal with about 600 cases each year. About 70% of these cases are old people.

HOME HELP SERVICE

The work of the District Nurses is ably backed by the Home Help Service, which provides domestic help in cases of sickness and for old people.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

The North-West Somerset Divisional Executive Area covers Weston-super-Mare and Axbridge Rural District. There are almost 10,000 school children in the area in schools administered by the Education Authority, more than 6,000 of whom attend schools in Weston-super-Mare. 2,208 children had a routine medical inspection in school and in addition there were 877 special examinations and 1,178 re-examinations.

The Health Centre at 3 Neva Road houses the Minor Ailments Clinic, Speech Clinic, Eye Clinic, Ante-Natal Clinic, Child Guidance Clinic and the Family Planning Clinic, in addition to being the offices of the Home Help Service and the Mental Health Officer.

III. LOCAL AUTHORITY SERVICES

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - Section 47.

This section of the National Assistance Act provides for the removal to a suitable place of persons who are in need of care and attention, through age or disease, and who are living in insanitary conditions. This step is only taken in extreme cases and only after repeated persuasion has failed. During the year, no case was dealt with in this way.

FIRST AID POST AND CENTRE FOR LOST CHILDREN

The First Aid Post was again staffed during the summer season by members of the British Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Brigade, and the Centre for Lost Children was in the charge of a Matron appointed by the Police.

WATER SUPPLIES

During the year the water supply of the town was satisfactory both in quality and quantity. 90 samples of untreated water and 216 samples of treated water were examined bacteriologically and 45 samples were examined chemically.

Various extensions to the water supplies were carried out during the year, mainly for new housing development.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

By the end of the year, the greater part of the new Main Drainage Scheme had been completed, namely the Black Rock Pumping Station, the Town Trunk Sewer, the Town Development (Industrial) and Housing site sewer, the Oldmixon Road, and Totterdown Lane Sewers, the Winterstoke Road Sewer, and the Worle Trunk Sewer, Phases I and II. Work was in progress on Worle Trunk Sewer, Phase III.

HOUSING

During 1962, the Local Authority erected 134 houses. At the end of the year 152 houses were in course of erection, the majority being for the new Town Development Scheme. Private enterprise built 130 houses in 1962 compared with 153 in 1961. In addition 43 flats or dwellings were gained from conversion of larger houses.

A further 18 Old Peoples dwellings were erected during 1962, compared with 22 in 1961. The number of applicants for old peoples dwellings at the end of the year was 180.

With regard to the general waiting list for Council accommodation, at the end of the year the total was 892 compared with 901 at the end of 1961. Of these 892 applicants, 714 were classified as urgent bona fide applicants.

The number of post-war houses erected in the Borough from 1st April, 1945, to 31st December, 1962, is as follows:-

(a) Erected by the Local Authority	...	...	2,327
(b) Erected by Private Enterprise	...	...	1,930

The number of applications received in 1962 for "discretionary" Improvement Grants under the Housing Acts, 1949 - 1954, was 72. At the end of the year, 48 of these applications had been approved, 44 of which were in respect of owner/occupiers. The average cost per dwelling approved during the year was £584 and the total amount of grant payable by the Local Authority was £15,992.

In addition to the "discretionary" grants, 25 applications for grants to provide standard amenities were approved, 24 of these were approved.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE, 1962

	Total cases notified
Diphtheria	-
Scarlet Fever	3
Erysipelas	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	3
Measles	3
Whooping Cough	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	-
Acute Encephalitis	-
Dysentery	-
Food Poisoning	-
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	1
Pneumonia (all types)	5
Meningococcal Infection	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-
Smallpox	-
Tuberculosis (pulmonary)	16
Tuberculosis (non-pulmonary)	-

As can be seen from the Table above, none of the common notifiable infectious diseases were prevalent during the year. One case of typhoid fever was notified. This was a lady who had just returned from a holiday in Spain, and who was infected in Spain.

The most important occurrence in 1962 so far as infectious diseases are concerned, was the outbreak of smallpox in the country during the early months of the year. The outbreak was really five separate epidemics due to the importation of five separate cases of smallpox by air from Pakistan during late December 1961 and January 1962. The most severe outbreaks occurred at Bradford in Yorkshire, and in South Wales, but fortunately no cases occurred in Somerset. There was, therefore, no need for vaccination or revaccination of the public on a large scale in this area, but throughout the country, there was a tremendous demand for vaccination from the general public. In addition, many other European countries demanded certificates of vaccination from people travelling from Britain. The effect of this can be seen in the following figures giving the number of people of different age groups who were vaccinated against smallpox in 1962 in Weston-super-Mare and Somerset as a whole.

Smallpox Vaccination in 1962

Age Groups	Under 1		1		2 - 4		5 - 14		15 & over		Total	
	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R
Weston-super-Mare 1961	174	1	16	-	18	-	19	2	3	2	230	5
1962	297	-	71	5	105	33	329	359	433	1050	1235	1447
Somerset 1961	3660	12	304	1	253	26	252	73	61	70	4530	182
County 1962	5452	10	1240	36	3099	813	11391	7356	13881	2508	5063	29723

P = Primary Vaccination R = Re-vaccination

IMMUNISATION AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE

I. POLIOMYELITIS IMMUNISATION

Between 1947 and 1957, 39 cases of poliomyelitis with 4 deaths were notified in the town. Immunisation with Salk vaccine was started in 1957, and since then no case of poliomyelitis has occurred in the town. The Salk vaccine had to be given by injection, but in February 1962, the Ministry of Health authorised the use of Sabin vaccine which is given by mouth. Naturally, this is a much more convenient method of giving the vaccine, and is much more acceptable to both children and adults. The value of immunisation has already been shown by the fact that poliomyelitis is now a comparatively rare disease, and it is hoped that before long it will be completely eliminated from this country. The following gives details of the numbers who were given immunisation in the area in 1962.

(a) Primary Immunisation

	<u>Salk Vaccine</u> (by injection)	<u>Sabin Vaccine</u> (by mouth)	<u>Total</u>
Children born 1943 - 1962	143	256	399
Young persons born 1933 - 1942	43	33	76
Persons under 40 years of age and priority groups	79	49	128
Total	265	338	603

(b) In addition, 1663 people (in all age groups) received a reinforcing dose either with Salk or the oral vaccine.

II. VACCINATION AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS (B.C.G. VACCINATION)

In 1956, the County Council, as the Local Health Authority, introduced a scheme for the vaccination of children against tuberculosis. B.C.G. (Bacillus Calmette-Guerin) vaccine is used and the offer is extended to all thirteen-year old children. The children are first given a skin test with tuberculin (Heaf Test) and if the skin reaction is negative, they are then vaccinated. Children showing a positive Heaf Test do not require vaccination, as the positive reaction shows that they have already had some infection with tuberculosis and therefore have developed some immunity.

366 thirteen-year old children in Weston-super-Mare Divisional Area had the preliminary Heaf Test and of these 25 were found to be positive i.e. 6.8%. The remaining 341 negative reactors were vaccinated.

III. DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH AND TETANUS IMMUNISATION

Again there were no cases of diphtheria notified in 1962 and since the end of the war only four cases have occurred in the town, the last being in 1947. The last death from diphtheria occurred in 1942. During the year, 399 children received primary immunisation against diphtheria. 381 children were immunised against whooping cough, and 310 were immunised against tetanus.

R E P O R T
O F
C H I E F P U B L I C H E A L T H I N S P E C T O R

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of
the Borough of Weston-super-Mare.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the sanitary administration of the Borough of Weston-super-Mare for the year 1962.

A considerable number of unfit houses capable of repair at a reasonable cost were brought up to standard during the year. Closing Orders were instigated in several cases where houses were considered to be beyond repair.

Landlords generally showed little interest in improvement grant schemes and the majority of grants were to owner occupiers. It is evident that owners of tenanted houses are reluctant to tie up their capital in improvement works, particularly if they are faced with heavy repair and renewal costs as a condition of the grant. This type of property usually is not improved until it becomes vacant and eventually owner occupied.

The throughput at the Abattoir was considerably lower than estimated due mainly to the shortage of lambs in the spring. The extremely adverse weather conditions towards the end of the year, which made the transporting of animals over considerable distances extremely difficult, was a contributory factor. Further structural improvements were carried out at the Abattoir during the year. A new cattle lairage, string house and gut department were provided, which together with the introduction of the cattle and sheep "line" systems for slaughtering has brought the Abattoir up to modern standards, and it now compares favourably with most Abattoirs of a similar type.

The inspection of meat was maintained at a high standard and all animals slaughtered at the Abattoir were inspected as to their fitness for human consumption.

Although implementation of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, has done much to improve the standard of slaughterhouses, the aim of 100% meat inspection has not been achieved. However, draft Regulations now being considered will place an obligation on local authorities to inspect all meat, and meat passed for human consumption will have to be stamped by a qualified inspector.

Although the Food Hygiene Regulations have helped considerably to raise the standard of hygiene in this country, it is still evident that there are still many food handlers who are equally indifferent to education and to coercion in matters of food hygiene. They continue to behave with carelessness and thoughtlessness in the handling of other peoples food. There is no doubt, however, that continuous and thorough inspection of food premises is the best way to ensure the safety of the nations food supply.

I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Chairman and Public Health Committee for the support given to me during the year and to record my gratitude for the assistance and co-operation received from the officers and staff of all departments.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G.P. LAWRENCE,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING

A considerable number of unfit houses were satisfactorily repaired during the year. It is essential that houses be prevented from falling into a future slum clearance group and every endeavour must be made to bring houses up to the standard of fit dwellings.

Nobody can be very happy about the existing Housing Act standard of fitness. The eventual aim must be a standard based on the 12 points of fitness used for improvement grants. The provision of housing with modern amenities is a social necessity and good housing should be a social service given high priority.

Little advantage was again taken of improvement grant schemes to enhance the comfort of the occupants of tenanted houses. The great benefit from these grants is not only the improvement of the houses but the repairs undertaken as a condition of grant will put them into a fit condition. Unfortunately there are some tenants who still prefer an unfit house at low rental than a modernised house with a subsequent rent increase. It is generally agreed, however, that a bath, hot water supply and indoor water closet are essential for a decent standard of living and it is time their provision was made compulsory.

It is only by effective improvements to houses on a wide scale that will reduce the slum clearance problem of the future and thus ease the increasing difficulty of providing more new houses. Unfortunately at the present rate of progress the aims of a separate house with modern facilities for each family appears unobtainable.

There is little evidence that the Rent Act, 1957, provisions as to rent increases in respect of repairs have resulted in any appreciable repair work being executed. The cost of essential repairs is usually so considerable compared with the permitted rent increase as to be uneconomical. A considerable number of tenanted houses are also occupied by long standing tenants who are not willing or able to pay increased rents for improvements and repairs. In many cases the older tenants are satisfied with their existing amenities.

Houses let in multiple occupation do not present a serious problem in this Borough as in many other towns. These houses are proving a very profitable concern, and given the capital and disregard for human comfort the investment can be most lucrative to the owners. However, under the provisions of the 1961 Housing Act, the local authorities now have much wider powers to deal with the difficulties that can arise in houses which are in multiple occupation.

Housing Act, 1957

Houses included in Clearance area for which Orders are still to be made	Nil
Number of houses closed or demolished under Section 42 of the Housing Act, 1957 (Clearance Areas)	Nil
Number of houses demolished or closed (a) under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957 (individual unfits)	2
Number of houses declared unfit under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957 (capable of repair)	11
Number of houses made fit during year	6

Improvement Grants

A. Discretionary

Applications received	72
Applications approved	48
No. of applications approved in respect of owner/occupiers during year	44

B. Standard

Applications received	...	...	...	...	...	25
Applications approved	...	...	...	...	...	24
No. of houses where standard amenities have been provided	...	...	...	...	...	24

Rent Act, 1957 - Certificates of Disrepair

No. of applications received	...	...	...	...	...	3
No. of Certificates issued	...	...	...	...	...	2

Housing Inspections

Housing Act, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	142
Re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	234
Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	125
Re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	137
Council House applications	...	...	...	...	...	78
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	5
Vermin	...	...	...	...	...	16
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	130

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Number of caravan sites in the Borough licensed under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1961:-

Holiday Sites	...	...	...	...	5
Residential Sites	...	...	...	...	3
Part Holiday and part Residential	...	...	...	...	2

Since the coming into force of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1961, by which Local Authorities were required to issue new licences for all existing caravan sites, the standard of hygiene on the sites has been raised considerably, which together with additional sanitary facilities has resulted in a considerable improvement of site standards. Periods of up to 3 years have been allowed for site owners to comply with the Councils approved conditions for holiday and residential sites. Laundry facilities, shower baths, adequate drainage for the disposal of waste water, and proper access roads are now provided on almost all sites.

Substandard caravans are now being replaced by more elaborate models. There has been a phenomenal improvement of caravan design over the last few years with a trend to more luxurious accommodation. Models are becoming wider and larger and are very comfortable and convenient. The Act gives local authorities full powers to control caravan sites and permits immediate action against offenders. It is essential that caravan parks be made to add to the amenities of the community and not detract from them.

The problem of touring caravans is still acute and local authorities will have to give serious consideration to providing suitable sites for caravans in transit.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

The number of rooms disinfected during the year was 41.

The Sparkhall Disinfecting Station situated at the Councils Mendip Road Depot operated satisfactorily during the year. The plant has proved ideal for disinfecting all articles of clothing and bedding efficiently.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Routine observations were carried out of factory chimneys during the year, but no nuisance from smoke pollution was recorded.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The extensive use of warfarin, the anti-coagulant poison for rodent control proved highly successful. The sewers were again baited in the Spring and Autumn, and the results indicated that infestation was well under control.

	Local Authority	Dwelling houses (incl. Council Houses)	All other (incl. Business Premises	Total of Cols. 1,2 & 3	Agricul- ture
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	34	13819	730	14549	16
2. Total number of properties inspected as a result of notification	6	187	44	347	-
No. of such properties found to be infested by:					
Common rat Major	-	-	-	-	-
Minor	6	181	43	224	-
House mouse Major	-	-	-	-	-
Minor	-	3	1	4	-
3. Total number of <u>properties</u> inspected in the course of <u>survey</u> under the Act	2	-	-	-	-
No. of such properties found to be infested by:					
Common rat Major	-	-	-	-	-
Minor	2	-	-	-	-
5. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections	33	523	135	658	-
6. No. of infested properties (in Sections 2 and 3) treated by the L.A.	8	184	44	228	-
7. Total treatments carried out - including re-treatments	14	242	64	306	-

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

1. INSPECTION FOR the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors).

	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupier Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	30	27	-	-
2. Factories not included in 1, in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	163	168	-	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Totals	193	195	-	-

2. CASES in which defects were found

	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilations (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	3	-	-	2	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	-	-	2	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
Total	5	-	-	4	-

3. OUTWORK - Section 133 and 134 of the Factories Act, 1961.

Nature of Work	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 133(1)	Section 134 Notices Served
Wearing apparel (making etc. Cleaning and Washing).	32	-

SHOPS

515 inspections were made during the year under the provisions of the Shops Acts, 1934 - 1950, dealing with the Health and comfort of shop workers, general closing hours and hours of employment.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926

This Act requires an indication of origin to be given in the case of certain imported goods. Numerous inspections of various imported foods were made for this purpose, but no contraventions of the Act were recorded.

ICE CREAM

208 premises are registered for the preparation, storage and sale of ice cream, of which 2 are producers.

133 samples of ice cream were taken during the year, and a satisfactory standard was maintained.

	Total Samples	Hot Mix			
		1.	2.	3.	4.
January	8	6	1	-	1
February	8	7	-	1	-
March	4	3	1	-	-
April	10	8	2	-	-
May	12	10	1	1	-
June	11	8	-	-	3
July	12	2	5	1	4
August	24	6	8	7	3
September	13	8	3	1	1
October	12	11	1	-	-
November	11	7	4	-	-
December	4	-	1	2	1
Totals	129	76	27	13	13
Percentages		51.2	20.3	9.7	9.7

CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS AND FOOD HYGIENE

Routine visits to catering and other food preparing premises continued throughout the year. Generally speaking the conditions found were satisfactory, but in some cases the conditions fell far short of those desirable.

The Food Hygiene Regulations contain a direct and forthright prohibition of smoking in rooms where open food is prepared or stored, but it is most evident that in these days when tobacco addiction is encouraged by mass advertising, this regulation is not rigidly obeyed.

Catering establishments are compelled to employ inexperienced temporary staff to cope with the influx of visitors during the holiday season. These employees are neither interested or educated in accepted standards of food hygiene and at peak holiday periods this presents a difficult problem to the employer.

Complaints continue to be received of an almost incredible variety of foreign bodies found in foodstuffs. Each case was considered on its merit and prosecutions were instigated in those cases where the lack of supervision and the taking of the necessary precautions to prevent the adulteration of the food was apparent.

A wider use of cooled counter display units is needed in retail trading. Every effort must be made to propagate clean handling of food from the factory to the kitchen table. Co-operation is necessary between management and employees in an effort to produce clean and hygienic food, and to instil into every employee a sense of obligation to the consumer.

FOOD PREMISES

Bakers ...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Butchers ...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Fishmongers ...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Grocers ...	...	...	...	...	...	106
Greengrocers ...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Fishfryers ...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Restaurants, cafes, snack bars, etc. ...	...	...	...	...	...	114
Licensed Premises ...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Hotel, Private Hotels and Boarding Houses	...	...	...	...	...	349

Inspections of Food Premises:

Abattoir ...	...	...	...	...	...	727
Bakehouses ...	...	...	...	...	...	74
Butchers Shops ...	...	...	...	...	...	187
Catering Establishments ...	...	...	...	...	...	418
Dairies and Milk Shops ...	...	...	...	...	...	221
Fishmongers ...	...	...	...	...	...	66
Fried Fish Shops ...	...	...	...	...	...	86
Greengrocers ...	...	...	...	...	...	93
Grocers ...	...	...	...	...	...	315
Ice Cream Shops and Premises ...	...	...	...	...	...	119
Licensed Premises ...	...	...	...	...	...	131
Chemist Shops ...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Confectionery ...	...	...	...	...	...	102
Mineral Water Factories ...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Poultry Packing ...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Sweets and Tobacco ...	...	...	...	...	...	56
Foods for condemnation ...	...	...	...	...	...	128
Other Food Premises ...	...	...	...	...	...	33

Samples Taken:

Bottle rinses...	...	...	...	...	78
Drinking Water	...	...	...	...	24
Food	...	...	...	...	125
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	129
Milk	...	...	...	...	268
Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials					.3
Swimming Bath Water	...	...	...		89

Unsound Food Condemned in the Town:-

Meat ...	...	6 lbs.	Fish ...	...	166 lbs.
Poultry	...	13 "	Sugar ...	...	50 "
Sausages	...	13 "	Cheese	...	525 "
Bacon	...	34 "	Sweets	...	28 "

Canned Goods:-

Meat ...	...	206 cans	Cream ...	...	9 cans
Fruit	...	785 "	Poultry	...	4 "
Vegetables	...	356 "	Rice	...	18 "
Milk	...	177 "	Butter	...	44 "
Fish	...	132 "	Coffee	...	6 "
Jams	...	83 "	Syrup	...	21 "
Soups	...	23 "	Baby Foods	...	1 "
Custard Powder	1	carton	Cereals	...	8 pkts.
Frozen Foods	1121	pkts.	Flavouring	...	11 jars
Fruit Juices	7	bottles	Pies	...	3

DAIRIES AND MILK SHOPS

No. of Registered Distributors = 57.

No. of Registered Dairy Premises (other than Dairy Farms) = 9.

268 samples of designated milk were examined and the results were as follows:-

Designation	Samples Taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Tuberculin Tested	15	15	-
Pasteurised	251	246	5
Sterilised	2	2	-

There have recently been many demands for the abolition of the outdated and dangerous milk bottle and the universal adoption of the new hygienic milk carton. The more usual objections against the bottle are those of danger from breakages and abuse and the misuse of the empty bottle. A milk bottle is a sturdy and durable container and breakages usually only occur through accident or deliberate destruction. Cartons certainly score over bottles on the question of misuse with their once only use. It has however, to be admitted that there is a strong custom preference for glass containers as with milk one of the greatest advantages is the visible cream line.

Convenient, light, safe, hygienic, quiet and easy to dispose of are some of the arguments to promote use of cartons. It is also claimed that as the carton is opaque there is less destruction of the Vitamin C content. This is clearly a case where consumer preference will rule the method of delivery.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

The number of samples submitted for analysis for the year 1962 was 125.

No. of Sample	Description of Sample	Result of Analysis	No. of Sample	Description of Sample	Result of Analysis
2	C.I.T.T. (Past) Milk	Genuine	1	Apple Green Colouring	Genuine
		" "	1	Garlic Vinegar	"
2	Past.Milk	"	1	Buitoni Sauce	"
9	T.T. (Past) Milk	" "	1	Rilchoe Block	"
2	Sterilised Milk	"	1	Creamed Horseradish	"
2	T.T. Milk	"	1	Tabasco Pepper Sauce	"
1	Christmas Pudding	"	1	Banana Flakes	"
2	Pastry Mix	"	1	Vanilla Flavouring	"
1	Cake Mix	"	1	Rock Candy	"
1	Instant Apple Flakes	"	1	Chocolate Mould	"
1	Apple Pie	"	1	Croustillants	"
1	Cocktail Cherries	"	1	Cabbage Juice	"
1	Macaroni Shells	"	1	Corn Oil	"
1	Semolina	"	1	Mandarin Oranges	"
1	Flake Tapioca	"	1	Irish Beef with Gravy	Unsatis.
1	Almond Marzipan	"	1	Honey	Genuine
3	Whisky	"	1	Spam	"
2	Rum	"	2	Clotted Cream	"
2	Gin	"	1	French Nougat	"
1	Brandy	"	1	Orange Drink	"
1	Corned Beef	"	1	Lemon Curd	"
1	Ham and Beef Roll	"	2	Casserole Beef Steak	Unsatis.
1	Ham and Chicken Roll	"	1	Raspberries	Genuine
1	Olives in Brine	"	1	Sliced Apples	"
1	Pilchards in Tomato Sauce	"	1	Grapefruit	"
1	Steak & Kidney Pie	"	1	Pears	"
1	Green Beans	"	1	Strawberries	"
1	Butter Beans	"	1	Bread Crumbs	"
1	Milk Shake	"	1	Olive Oil	"
1	Tomato Juice	"	1	Halibut Oil Capsules	"
1	Parmasugo	"	1	Iron & Yeast Tablets	"
1	Single Cream	"	1	Riboflavine Tablets	"
1	Pork 'N Ham	Unsatis.	1	Turpentine Linement	"
1	Marmalade	Genuine	1	Bean Sprouts	"
1	Yorkshire Pudding		1	Sliced Beetroot	"
	& Pancake Mix	"	1	Breakfast Grill	"
1	Chicksnak	"	1	Irish Stewed Steak	"
1	Lamb Chops & 4 Veg.	"	1	Water Chestnut	"
1	Arrowroot	"	1	Gherkins	"
1	Black Pepper	"	1	Beans in Tomato Sauce	"
2	Fruit Salad	"	1	Peeled Tomatoes	Unsatis.L.
1	Fruit Salad	Unsatis.L.	1	Limmits	Genuine
2	Pork Sausages	Genuine	1	Rock	"
2	Pork Sausages	Unsatis.	1	Rum Flavoured Sauce	
3	Beef Sausages	Genuine		Powder	"
1	Beef Sausage	Unsatis.	1	Fish Cakes	"
1	Rose Pink Colouring	Genuine	1	Chicken Fritters	"
1	Ready Dinner	"	1	Plain Flour	"
1	Malted Milk Choc.	"	1	S.R. Flour	"
1	China Tea	"	1	Gelantine	"
1	Custard Powder	"	1	Frizets	"
1	Red Cabbage	"	1	'20 Days' Slimming Treatment	"

Misleading labelling and advertising of food and drugs is still very much a problem. It is unfortunate that certain advertisers have allowed their enthusiasm to outstrip their veracity when introducing their products on to the market. Extravagant claims for mineral and vitamin products have been made. However, the general standard of purity and quality of the food supply of this country is as high as anywhere in the world, although we deprecate the use of additives and pesticides.

There are many hazards in the wrong use of additives and antibiotics, and although their use in food technology offers great advantages to the consumer, their use to cover up poor quality must be condemned.

Deliberate adulteration of food appears to be a thing of the past, but unfortunately the number of foreign bodies found in foodstuffs is on the increase and local authorities are beginning to take a serious view of these incidents. It must be stressed, however, that health education as well as prosecution has a large part to play in safe-guarding food supplies.

The sampling of food and drugs must soon be the subject of detailed and close study if it is not to fall behind developments in trading. The relationship between the public analyst and sampling officers of the Food and Drugs Authority should be one of close advice and regular discussion, and this implies that the analyst should be concerned with the pattern of sampling throughout the area. On the other hand there is unfortunately little evidence of close co-operation between Food and Drugs Authorities.

DRINKING WATER

24 samples of water for bacteriological analysis from taps in the district were submitted with satisfactory results.

SWIMMING BATH WATER

89 Samples of swimming bath water from the Open Air Swimming Pool and Knightstone Baths were submitted for bacteriological analysis and were found to be satisfactory.

The estimated average number of bathers daily during the season were as follows:-

Open Air Swimming Pool	...	1350 per day for 20 weeks.
Knightstone Baths	...	502 per day for 26 weeks.

Name of Bath	Water			Treatment		
	Main	Sea	Other	Recirculation	Filtration	Chlorination Automatic Hand
The Pool		Sea		Yes	Pressure	Yes
Knightstone Bath		"		"	"	"

OFFENSIVE TRADES

The only offensive trade operating in the Borough is that of gut scraping at the Public Abattoir.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957

The number of licensed collectors in the Borough is now 18.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

The number of premises licensed to keep pet animals in the Borough is 3. Routine inspections were made of all premises licensed, in accordance with the provisions of the Act. Conditions generally were found to be satisfactory.

POULTRY PACKING ESTABLISHMENTS

There has been considerable discussion recently about the poultry processing industry and the excellent codes of practice produced by the Ministry of Health. Standards of hygiene, however, still vary a great deal from area to area, and in some instances fall far short of an ideal standard.

It is essential to avoid complaint, to have suitably constructed premises, correctly sited with an ample and satisfactory water supply. The premises themselves should comply in every respect with the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Number of Poultry Packing Establishments in the District ... 1.
Approximate weekly kill ... 10,000 to 15,000.

SUMMARY OF VISITS BY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

Total number of inspections and visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,666
Nuisances or complaints	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	299
Cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Cinemas and Public Buildings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
<u>Drainage:</u>								
Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	159
Tests	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
<u>Factories:</u>								
Power	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	168
Non-Power	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
Workplaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	79
Infectious Disease visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Visits re food poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Interviews with Owners, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	370
Offensive accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	98
Pet Animals Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Public and Private Refuse Tips	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	310
Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Shops Act Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	604
Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Stables and Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	102
Caravan Sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	188
Disease of Animals (Waste Food) Order	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, DISINFECTIONS, ETC.

	<u>Rooms</u>	<u>Articles</u>
Tuberculosis	-	49
Typhoid	-	20
Non Notifiable Diseases	16	219
Vermin	25	-
	<u>41</u>	<u>288</u>

Articles destroyed = 8.

INSPECTION OF MEAT

It is expected that Regulations placing an obligation on local authorities to inspect all meat slaughtered in their district, and prohibiting the removal of meat until it has been inspected and stamped by a qualified meat inspector, will come into force in the near future.

Local Authorities will be authorised to make charges to cover the costs of meat inspection and administration. These proposed charges will be a contribution to meat inspection costs, and in many cases public funds will bear a share of the cost, varying substantially according to whether reasonable proposals for hours of slaughter are put forward, and also on local patterns and distribution of slaughtering.

The following salvage was handed on to the Ministry of Food's Agent for residual recovery purposes:-

	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Condemned Meat	51	0	0	14
Non-edible offals, etc.	335	9	1	19
Total	386	9	2	5

Animals Killed at the Public Abattoir

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
Pigs	18,640	18,981	15,204	20,535	16,990	15,693	18,126	21,355
Sheep	18,110	25,351	25,793	30,371	47,194	44,095	48,402	38,619
Calves	2,970	3,716	2,708	1,664	1,437	1,159	947	872
Beasts	6,996	9,100	8,714	12,077	8,064	7,749	11,227	10,681

Difference from the year 1961

Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
-546	-75	-9,783	+3229

being a decrease of 7,175 animals over 1961.

The income from slaughtering charges, tolls, and rentals was as follows:-

1953	4,592.	16.	10.
1954	5,605.	19.	5.
1955	6,741.	17.	6.
1956	9,162.	2.	10.
1957	8,706.	17.	10.
1958	10,541.	15.	6.
1959	10,806.	16.	7.
1960	10,956.	5.	1.
1961	12,890.	17.	6.
1962, including rentals and tolls etc. as below	12,585.	9.	4.
<u>Abattoir</u> Rentals	1,603.	14.	11.
Car Washing Fees	9.	2.	0.
Sale of manure to Parks Committee etc.	142.	19.	6.
and			
<u>Cattle</u>			
<u>Market</u> Tolls	208.	16.	8.

DISEASED MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

The Total weight of diseased, unsound or injured meat and organs condemned was:-

<u>Tuberculous Meats:-</u>	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Beef and organs including 5 carcasses and various organs	1	5	3	9				
2 Pig carcasses and organs		3	1	8	1	9	0	17

Non-Tuberculous Meat:-

Beef and organs including 39 carcasses and 44 quarters	34	13	1	5				
Pigs and organs including 69 carcasses and 77 quarters	11	11	3	10				
Sheep and organs including 75 carcasses and 21 quarters	2	18	0	8				
Calves and organs including 15 carcasses		7	3	2	49	10	3	25
Total weight of all condemned meat					51	0	0	14

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in whole or in part during year:-

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	7120	3561	872	38619	21 355
Number inspected	7120	3561	872	38619	21 355
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	13	26	15	75	70
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1404	2810	14	1196	5610
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticercosis	20.3%	79.6%	3.3%	3.2%	26.5%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	3	2	-	-	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	41	19	-	-	213
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	.61%	.5%	-	-	1.0%
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	114	35	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	114	35	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Weight of meat condemned (in lbs.) for:-					
(a) Tuberculosis	1882	3701	-	-	372
(b) Cysticercosis	3192	860	-	-	-
(c) Other	47311	23655	781	6540	25960
Total (in lbs.) condemned	52385	28216	781	6540	26332

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

1 9 6 2

Although the total sunshine for the year of 1593.1 hours was just below the 10-year (1952-61) average of 1627.1 hours, the first four months showed an increase of over 30 hours on the average, whereas the summer months of May, July, August and September showed a deficiency of over 100 hours. On February 22nd, 9.1 hours was recorded, the highest daily amount for that month since February 26th 1958 (9.3 hours). July, August, September and November had the lowest since 1954, 1958, 1958 and 1945 respectively.

Rainfall for the year of 25.23 inches was the lowest since 1956 (24.25 inches) and below the 10-year average of 31.64 inches. January, May and August had the highest since 1948, 1958 and 1952 respectively, while February, April, June, July, October and December had the lowest since 1959, 1958, 1925, 1955, 1951 and 1953 respectively. A period of "drought" occurred during February/March, as no measureable rainfall was recorded between February 13th and March 7th. Also in October there were 22 consecutive days without measureable rain, the first time this has occurred in October this century, the previous occasions of consecutive rainless days being in 1922 (20 days), 1945 (19 days) and 1951 (19 days).

The mean temperature for 1962 was 49.3° , as compared with the 10-year average of 51.5° . January (20° - average 24°), March (22° - average 27°), May (34° - average 38°), October (31° - average 35°), and December (20° - average 27°) all recorded minimum temperatures well below the average. May's maximum temperature of 64° was the lowest since 1949 (average being 73°), August (70°) the lowest since 1956 - average 78° , and September (71°) the lowest since 1957 - average 75° . A maximum temperature of 70° or over was recorded on 7 days only during June, as compared with the 6-year average of 8 days, July (7 days) - average 10 days, August (2 days) - average 7 days, and September (1 day) - average 6 days.

Unfortunately the figures for the number of ground frosts during the year are incomplete, as the grass minimum thermometer was out-of-order for a greater part of the year, and had to be returned to the Meteorological Office twice for re-testing.

The snow recorded as lying on the ground on January 1st, 2nd and 3rd actually fell on December 31st, 1961, and measured about one inch. No fresh falls occurred. A Snow shower occurred on one day in February, leaving a slight trace of snow on the ground for a brief period. Snow fell on night of December 26th/27th to a depth of 1", while on 29th/30th the amount was about 4", and gale force winds caused drifts of several feet. Further snow on 30th amounted to about 5" lying on the ground on 31st.

MONTHLY RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, 1962

	TEMPERATURES				RAINFALL				SUNSHINE		Number of Days							°FA TEMPERATURES°			
	Means			High- est Max.	Low- est Min.	Total inches	+9 a.m. to 6 p.m.	6 p.m. to +9 a.m.	No. Days .04" or over	Total hours	Daily Aver- age hours	Snow or sleet	Snow lying	Hail	Thunder heard	Fog	Air Frost		Ground Frost	Gale	
	Max.	Min.	Range																		Mean
	0	0	0	0	0	0	ins.	ins.													
January	46.0	36.3	9.7	41.1	52	20	4.60	.70	5.90	18	63.2	2.04	-	3	3	1	9	6	7	3	39.1
February	45.3	36.9	8.4	41.1	51	28	.68	.19	.49	5	81.2	2.90	1	1	-	-	1	5	-	3	37.8
March	45.5	32.3	13.2	38.9	57	22	1.78	.50	1.28	6	139.8	4.51	3	-	1	-	1	15	6	-	42.9
April	53.5	41.3	12.2	47.4	64	34	1.51	.38	1.13	8	179.4	5.98	-	-	-	1	1	-	8	1	51.2
May	58.2	46.3	11.9	52.3	64	34	1.70	.53	1.17	11	197.5	6.37	-	-	-	2	-	-	4	2	54.3
June	66.9	51.0	15.9	58.9	74	37	.34	.01	.33	3	261.7	8.72	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	62.9
July	68.1	54.7	13.4	61.4	78	44	1.35	.68	.67	8	163.5	5.27	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	64.5
August	65.6	54.4	11.2	60.0	70	49	4.70	2.38	2.32	15	162.8	5.25	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	62.4
September	63.2	51.2	12.0	57.2	71	39	2.95	.97	1.98	16	123.1	4.10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	59.7
October	58.6	45.4	13.2	52.0	66	30	1.23	.36	.87	7	110.1	3.55	-	-	1	1	9	1	1	-	53.6
November	48.5	39.2	9.3	43.9	56	29	2.70	1.47	1.23	11	42.1	1.40	-	-	-	-	4	3	8	2	49.2
December	42.4	33.0	9.4	37.7	55	20	1.69	.83	.86	8	68.7	2.22	4	5	-	-	4	16	-	3	40.0
Means & Totals	55.1	43.5	11.7	49.3	63.2	32.2	25.23	9.00	16.23	116	1593.1	4.36	8	9	5	7	29	46	35	17	51.5

+ 10 a.m. Summer Time
* Incomplete - Grass Minimum Thermometer out-of-order.

